

RESOLUTION

**By Gordon, Reich, Fletcher, Cunningham, Ellison, Warsame, Goodman,
Jenkins, Cano, Bender, Schroeder, Johnson, and Palmisano**

Opposing war with Iran and calling for immediate de-escalation.

Whereas, Minneapolis has gone on record opposing the Iraq war and calling for the cessation of ground operations, through resolution 2007R-050; and

Whereas, Minneapolis has publicly called on Congress to shift federal funding priorities from military operations to meeting the essential needs of our local communities, through Resolution 2012R-621; and

Whereas, Minneapolis has adopted Resolution 2019R-108, condemning Islamophobia and acts of violence against the Muslim community; and

Whereas, Congress has not yet declared war upon, nor enacted a specific statutory authorization for use of military force against, the Islamic Republic of Iran; and

Whereas, the unilateral actions of the Trump Administration have created the current crisis, including decisions to pull out from the Iran Nuclear Agreement and to assassinate Iranian general Qassem Soleimani; and

Whereas, the Trump Administration's actions have led to Iran rescinding its commitments to the 2015 nuclear agreement, increasing the risk of nuclear proliferation; and

Whereas, the people of Iraq would likely be severely impacted by further escalation of conflict between the United States and the Islamic Republic of Iran; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis has established a Sister City relationship with the City of Najaf, Iraq; and

Whereas, the Trump Administration has threatened Iranian cultural sites, which would be a war crime under the Hague Convention (which states that "all necessary steps must be taken" to spare "buildings dedicated to religion, art, science, or charitable purposes, historic monuments, hospitals, and places where the sick and wounded are collected") and the Geneva Convention (which prohibits "any acts of hostility directed against the historic monuments, works of art or places of worship which constitute the cultural or spiritual heritage of peoples"), and would be a violation of United States federal law; and

~~Whereas, U.S. Representative Ilhan Omar, who represents Minneapolis as part of Minnesota's Fifth Congressional District, is working to introduce a resolution to direct the President to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran; and~~

Whereas, the U.S. House of Representatives has passed a resolution that "directs the President to terminate the use of United States Armed Forces to engage in hostilities in or against Iran or any part of its government or military"; and

Whereas, Minneapolis taxpayers have paid over two billion dollars in federal income taxes to support the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, funds that could have been used to support ~~real~~ critical local needs; and

Whereas, federal spending on critical local needs has not kept pace with the programs and services needed in our ~~community~~ communities, including public housing; and

Whereas, numerous Minneapolis residents have come together to oppose war and violence, including this current escalation against Iran; and

Whereas, Minneapolis recognizes the Iranian-Americans who are part of our Twin Cities community and part of a large diaspora across the U.S., whose families continue to be impacted by the travel ban, economic sanctions and escalation with Iran;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the City of Minneapolis opposes war with the Islamic Republic of Iran, and calls for immediate de-escalation and constructive, good faith negotiation with Iran.

Be It Further Resolved that the City of Minneapolis calls on the U.S. Senate Congress to pass the ~~Joint Concurrent Resolution expected to be introduced by Representatives Omar and Lee, and Senator Kaine,~~ to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress directing the President to terminate the use of United States Armed Forces to engage in hostilities in or against Iran or any part of its government or military, and take all other necessary actions to prevent war with Iran.

Be It Further Resolved that the City of Minneapolis opposes killing Iranian civilians, destroying Iranian cultural sites, and all other actions that would be war crimes ~~that have been~~ threatened by the Trump Administration.